PATTERNS OF SELF ENDORSEMENTS IN COMMUNITY PERSONS AND MENTAL PATIENTS

BY

ROGER GENE STEWART

A.B., University of Illinois, 1947
A.M., University of Illinois, 1948

AN ABSTRACT OF A THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PSYCHOLOGY
IN THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, 1951

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In the psychological literature, one may find two views of personality integration, which may be expressed as follows:

(1) Personality integration is a continuous variable in personality.

(2) Personality integration is an organization of "selves" within a personality.

Our research was based on the approach to the measurement of personality integration followed by Louis L. McQuitty. He has developed a method of evaluating pairs of answers to questions of a personality inventory which will yield high critical ratios between the mean scores of relatively equivalent groups of community people, specifically college students, and mental hospital patients. His results, together with the nature of the item content, and the method of evaluating the pairs of answers, have led him to call his test a measure of personality integration.

Our research has applied factor analysis to the pairs of answers given by an individual subject to selected inventory items. Each item of the inventory asks a question about one's self which may be answered Y (Yes), B (Between Yes and No), or N (No). Using the response frequencies of the community people, common elements correlation coefficients were computed between pairs of answers to the items. An individual correlation matrix was established from coefficients assigned to an individual subject for his pairs of answers to pairs of selected items.

Two community persons and two mental patients, all having different scores in integration, were chosen for factor analysis. It was hypothesized that the answers of the community persons would reflect more integration than the answers of the mental patients by indicating a greater con-

centration of common factor variance in fewer independent factors of the matrix.

The results of the four individual factor analyses supported our hypothesis. The matrices of the two community persons indicated fewer factors, or selves, which accounted for a higher percentage of the total variance of the answers. The factorial results of the four matrices were also consistent with the individual scores in integration. This agreement may represent a relationship between the two views of personality integration.

Our results may indicate that factor analysis, when applied to individual matrices in the present manner, may give the present concept of personality integration some quantitative meaning.

VITA

Roger Gene Stewart was born in Urbana, Illinois, on February 15, 1925. He attended the elementary and high schools of Urbana. In September, 1943, he entered the University of Illinois. In June, 1947, he received an A. B. degree from this university with a major in psychology. He began graduate study in psychology in September, 1947, and received the A. M. degree in psychology in June, 1948. In September, 1948, he continued his graduate study in psychology at this university. During the year, 1948-1949, he was employed as a part-time research assistant in statistics in the Department of Psychology. From September, 1949, until the present time, he has held an assistantship in psychology in this department.

In collaboration with Professor Raymond B. Cattell of this Department of Psychology, and with Mr. Paul Heist and Mrs. Arlene Heist, former graduate students of the department, he has published an article entitled, "The Objective Measurement of Dynamic Traits," which appeared in *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, Vol. X, pp. 224-248.

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